3656. [Transferred to the 31st August, 1988].

Peace Keeping Force Battalions

3557. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 992 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th April, 1987 and state:

(a) the number of anti-riot Peace Keeping Force battalions raised during the period from May, 1987 to June, 1988; and

(b) what is the present number of Muslims and other minorities in these battalions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No additional Peace Keeping Force battalions in the CRPF were raised during the period from May, 1987 to June, 1988.

(b) No statistical data regarding number of Muslims and other minorities in position in CRPF battalions are maintained but the present system of recruitment is designed to ensure that the cross-section of the society is represented in the CRPF.

Harassment of a woman scientist in Rubber Research Institute, Kottayam

3558 SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken note of the harassment meted out to a woman scientist, Shrimati Lathankamma, in the Rubber Research Institute of India in Kottayam; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure that her research project is allowed to be carried out and the scientist is not harassed for her research endeavour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) There has been no harassment of Shrimati Lathankamma either by the Rubber Board or Rubber Research Institute of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Screening Committee for Freedom Fighters of Old Hyderabad State

3559. SHRI VITHAL RAO MADHAV RAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a screening Committee was appointed by the Government of India for clearing the cases of the freedom fighters of old Hyderabad State;

(b) how many cases were recommended by this Screening Committee and how many were rejected:

(c) whether there have been any complaints about this Screening Committee; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken against it and what is the fate of freedom fighters' case which have been rejected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Hyderabad Special Screening Committee was constituted to scrutinise the pension cases of the applicants who claimed to have been involved in underground work in the Border Camps against the rule of Nizam of old Hyderabad State. Till now the Committee have recommended 6,566 cases for sanction of pension and rejected 10,887 cases.

(c) and (d) Some complaints have been received about the Committee which have been sent to the State Government for inquiry and report.